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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/752,120	12/29/2000	Julio Estrada	L0T9-2000-0021 US1	8738

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EXAMINER

VU, KIEU D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 07/02/2003

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/752,120

Applicant(s)

ESTRADA ET AL.

Examiner

Kieu D Vu

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>6</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The specification is objected since it does not cite the serial numbers and the filing dates of the related applications listed on pages 1-4.
2. The abstract is objected since it exceeds 150 words.

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 10-11, 17-18, and 22 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 10 is objected to because of it has typographical errors. The word "users" should be deleted. The word "tweek" should be changed to "tweak".

Claim 17 is objected to because of it has a typographical error. The word "users" should be deleted.

Claim 18 is objected to because of it has a typographical error. The word "users" should be deleted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

4. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

5. Claims 33-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 33-34 claim "A computer program product or computer program element" per se and does not positively recite that the program is stored on a medium that can be read by a machine. As such, the claimed invention is not directed to a machine readable medium or a manufacturer article.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7. Claims 1-11 and 16-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 recites the limitation "said user interface". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 9 is incomplete; therefore, the claim is vague and indefinite.

Claim 10 recites the limitation "said user". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 16 recites the limitation "said user". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

9. Claims 1-9, 12-16, and 22-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Salas et al ("Salas", USP 6233600).

Regarding claims 1, 31, and 33, Salas teaches a method for controlling the layout of collaboration space user interface components, comprising the steps of rendering individually addressable and placing on a page each said user interface component (col 5, lines 22-27); and rendering components on said page equivalent to collaboration space tags for importation into said collaboration space for use in instantiating said user interface (col 1, lines 35-45).

Regarding claim 2, Salas teaches that said page being an HTML page (col 2, lines 19-27) and said collaboration space being a place (eRoom)

Regarding claim 3, Salas teaches that said place being a file directory (col 3, lines 32-33).

Regarding claims 4 and 25, Salas teaches the dragging and dropping said page from a user desktop to an output control for uploading to a collaboration space server (col 13, lines 14-26).

Regarding claims 5 and 27, Salas teaches the organizing said collaboration space including room (eRoom), folder (col 7, line 19), page (col 3, lines 32-33).

Regarding claims 6 and 28, Salas teaches said user interface components including logo (col 5, lines 54-59), table of contents, action bar 404, tool bar 404, and page content (col 14, lines 46-50).

Regarding claims 7 and 15, Salas teaches the providing links to other collaboration space resources (col 2, lines 10-11).

Regarding claim 8, Salas teaches integrating said collaboration space with an existing web site by including in said page links to network resources (col 2, lines 10-11).

Regarding claims 9 and 24, Salas teaches the uploading said pages to a server (col 13, lines 10-13).

Regarding claims 12, 23, 32, and 34, Salas teaches a method for controlling the style and layout of a collaboration space user interface, comprising the steps of specifying component positioning in said user interface in a set of hypertext markup language pages (col 5, lines 22-27); and specifying font, size and color style in a common style sheet page (col 37-49).

Regarding claim 13, Salas teaches the rendering each said component on said hypertext markup language pages individually addressable (Fig. 4; col 2, lines 19-27).

Regarding claims 14 and 26, Salas teaches the rendering in a skin group said hypertext markup language and style sheet pages responsive to collaboration space

tags; and responsive to a user request, importing said skin group into a place for instantiating said user interface (col 1, lines 35-45).

Regarding claim 16, Salas teaches the rendering said collaboration space to said user through said user interface (col 10, lines 66-67).

Regarding claim 29, Salas teaches modes (col 8, lines 55-56) and folder (reference numbers 417 and 482).

Regarding claim 30, Salas teaches theme of eRooms (col 7, lines 8-10).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 10-11, 17-19, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salas and Van Der Meer ("Van Der Meer", USP 6415316).

Regarding claims 10-11, 17-19, and 21, Salas does not the choosing a theme from a gallery of themes. However, such feature is known in the art as taught by Van Der Meer. Van Der Meer teaches a method for implementing a web page diary in which the user can choose a theme, change the theme (col 2, lines 26-29), or edit property of theme (col 10, lines 3-5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Salas and Van Der Meer before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface system taught by Salas to include choosing, changing, or

editing theme taught by Van Der Meer with the motivation being to give the user the ability to present the theme he or she desires.

Regarding claim 22, Van Der Meer teaches the default and changed themes (col 2, lines 26-29).

12. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salas and Noguchi ("Noguchi", USP 5983184).

Regarding claim 20, Noguchi does not teach that the interface is structured for communication with a physically challenged user. However, such feature is known in the art as taught by Noguchi. Noguchi teaches a method for hypertext control through voice synthesis which enable a visually impaired user to freely and easily control hyper text (col 3, lines 9-11). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Salas and Noguchi before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface system taught by Salas to include the communication with a visually impaired user taught by Noguchi with the motivation being to enable visually handicapped persons to access visual information displayed on the screen.

9. The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R., 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach about collaborative system which relates to the claimed invention.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kieu D. Vu whose telephone number is (703-605-1232). The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached on (703- 308-3116).

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703)-746-7238 (After Final Communication)

or

(703)-746-7239 (Official Communications)

(703)-746-7240 (For Status Inquiries, draft communication)

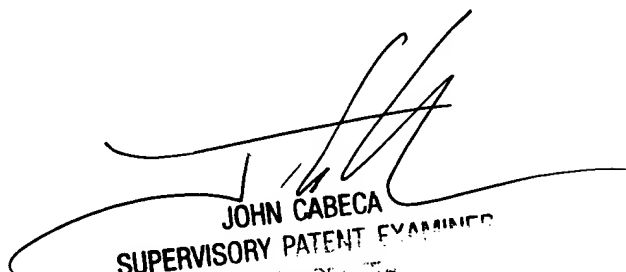
and / or:

(703)-746-5639 (use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper / amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions)

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703-305-3900).

Kieu D. Vu

June 24, 03


JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER